

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-8, 17-33 and 43-51 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 9-13, 34-37 and 39 and add Claims 52-57 as follows. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

1-8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

~~detection means for detecting~~ a detection unit adapted to detect new text inserted in a web page;

~~conversion means for converting~~ a conversion unit adapted to convert a character string that represents the text into a phonetic character string that represents the text; and

~~transmission means for transmitting~~ a transmission unit adapted to transmit the phonetic character string to a client ~~which registered the web page~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said transmission ~~means~~ unit transmits to the client a phonetic character string corresponding to a title of the web page together with the phonetic character string that represents the text.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said transmission ~~means~~ unit transmits to the client a character string corresponding to a creation date of the text together with the character string that represents the text.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:
~~means for deleting~~ a deleting unit adapted to delete a predetermined character string from the character string that represents the text.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~An information processing method~~ A method for an information processing apparatus, the method comprising:

a detection step of detecting new text inserted in a web page;
a conversion step of converting a character string that represents the text into a phonetic character string that represents the text; and
a transmission step of transmitting the phonetic character string to a client ~~which~~
~~registered the web page~~.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein said transmission step includes a step of transmitting to the client a phonetic character string corresponding to a title of the web page together with the phonetic character string that represents the text.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein said the transmission step includes a step of transmitting to the client a character string corresponding to a creation date of the text together with the character string that represents the text.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 13, further comprising:
a step of deleting a predetermined character string from the character string that represents the text.

17-33 (Cancelled).

34. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:
~~reception means for receiving~~ a reception unit adapted to receive a phonetic character string that represents new text inserted in a web page;
~~conversion means for converting~~ a conversion unit adapted to convert the phonetic character string that represents the text into synthetic speech; and
~~speech output means for outputting~~ a speech output unit adapted to output the synthetic speech.

35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said reception ~~means~~ unit receives a phonetic character string corresponding to a title of the web page together with the phonetic character string that represents the text.

36. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said reception ~~means~~ unit receives a phonetic character string corresponding to a creation date of the text together with the phonetic character string that represents the text.

37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said speech output ~~means~~ unit outputs predetermined sound or speech before outputting the synthetic speech.

38. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said information processing apparatus is one of a portable telephone, PDA, and computer.

39. (Currently Amended) ~~An information processing method~~ A method for an information processing apparatus, the method comprising:

a reception step of receiving a phonetic character string that represents new text inserted in a web page;

a conversion step of converting the phonetic character string that represents the text into synthetic speech; and

a speech output step of outputting the synthetic speech.

40. (Original) The method according to claim 39, wherein said reception step includes a step of receiving a phonetic character string corresponding to a title of the web page together with the phonetic character string that represents the text.

41. (Original) The method according to claim 39, wherein said reception step includes a step of receiving a phonetic character string corresponding to a creation date of the text together with the phonetic character string that represents the text.

42. (Original) The method according to claim 39, wherein said speech output step includes a step of outputting predetermined sound or speech before outputting the synthetic speech.

43-51 (Cancelled).

52. (New) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said detection unit includes detection means for detecting the text from the web page,

said conversion unit includes conversion means for converting the character string for representing the text into a phonetic character string, and

said transmission unit includes transmission means for transmitting the phonetic character string to the client.

53. (New) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said reception unit includes reception means for receiving the phonetic character string,

said conversion unit includes conversion means for converting the phonetic character string into synthetic speech, and

said speech output unit includes speech output means for outputting the synthetic speech.

54. (New) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the phonetic character string includes characters for representing pronunciations of words.

55. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the phonetic character string includes characters for representing pronunciations of words.

56. (New) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the phonetic character string includes characters for representing pronunciations of words.

57. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the phonetic character string includes characters for representing pronunciations of words.